and ammunition to the arrested persons was also arrested by the U.P. Police.

(c) The measures taken by the Delhi Police to curb such activities in Delhi include close co-ordination with the Central and State Intelligence agencies; checking of suspected guest houses/hide outs; strict watch on foreigners' tourist camps; larger development of spotters/watchers; verification of new tenants; checking of suspected vehicles; display of photographs of known terrorists of public places and soliciting greater public cooperation.

Loss due to scrapping of Euro-issue by VSNL

2059. SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Comptroller and Auditor General in his recent report has expressed concern about the sudden scrapping of the Euro-issue-proposal of Videsh Sanchar Nigam Ltd. in May, 1994;

(b) if so, whether inquiries have since been made into the circumstances of the scrapping of the proposal; and

(c) the extent of loss estimated to have been incurred by Government as a result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VERMA): (a) No, Sir. However, the Director General of Audit, Post and Telecommunications has forwarded a copy of Draft Paragraph on deferment of "Euro issue" for inclusion in the C&AG's Report, Union Government (Commercial) No. 3 of 1997 and has given an audit analysis of the case.

(b) and (c) Do not arise in view of (a) above.

Defence cooperation with other countries

2060. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the countries with which Government have established cooperation in the field of defence;

(b) whether France has recently expressed its keenness to establish military cooperation with India;

(c) if so, the reaction of government thereto; and

(d) the proposals of Government with regard to the expansion, modernisation and strengthening country's Navy, Air Force and Army?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N.V.N. SOMU): (a) The Government have entered into different kinds of Agreements, Protocols, Memoranda of Understanding etc. in the field of defence cooperation with various friendly countries, such as Russia, USA, Italy, France, UK, Ukraine, Belarus, Vietnam and South Africa.

(b) and (c) Defence cooperation with France is an on going process. A Memorandum of Understanding on defence cooperation between India and France had been signed in January, 1982. In pursuance of this MOU; an Indo-French Joint Committee on Defence has been set up. During the meetings of the Joint Committee, matters of mutual interest pertaining to defence cooperation are discussed.

(d) Modernisation/strengthening of our Defence forces is an on going process which takes into account the changing threat scenario, the advancement of technology, the global and regional security environment and the availability of resources.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Papers to be laid on the Table. (*Interruptions*)

SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN (TAMIL NADU): Madam, where is the Parliamentary Affairs Minister? (*Interruptions*)

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: He is in the other House. (*Interruptions*)

SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN: We want to know about the women's Bill, Madam. (*Interruptions*)

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: It was raised in the morning. I have taken the responsibility of talking to him during the course of the day and then come back to the House. Now, Papers to be laid on the Table. (*Interruptions*)

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY (ANDHRA PRADESH): Please call him. (*Interruptions*)